



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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CYPRIPEDIUM PARVIFLORUM **SMALL YELLOW LADY'S-SLIPPER**

Small Yellow Lady's-slipper is a perennial with leafy stems 15-40 cm tall that arise from short rhizomes. The elliptic leaves are 6-7 cm long and sheath the stem; foliage is lightly pubescent and usually glandular. The 1-2 yellow flowers are subtended by an erect leafy bract, that is often longer than the inflorescence. The narrow lance-shaped sepals reach up to 4 cm long, and are wavy-margined or slightly twisted. The lower petal is strongly pouch-shaped and often purple-dotted; the other 2 petals are united into one that is similar to the sepals but slightly longer. The fruit is an elliptic capsule. ca Flowering in May-June, fruiting in July.

This is the only yellow-flowered Lady's slipper in Montana. A hybrid between *C. PARVIFLORUM* and *C. MONTANUM* can occur where the two species meet, with intermediate characteristics.